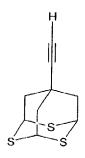
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CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A compound having the formula:



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2. A method for manufacturing 7-ethynyl-2,4,9-trithiaadamantane comprising the step of:

reacting 7-carbonyl-2,4,9-trithiaadamantane with Ohira-Bestmann reagent to produce 7-ethynyl-2,4,9-trithiaadamantane.

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3. The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of reducing an alkyl 2,4,9-trithiaadamantane-7-carboxylate by reacting the alkyl 2,4,9-trithiaadamantane-7-carboxylate with diisobutylaluminum hydride, sodium tetrahydridoborate, lithium aluminum hydride, or a combination thereof.

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4. The method of claim 3, wherein dissobutylaluminum hydride, sodium tetrahydridoborate, lithium aluminum hydride, or a combination thereof is reacted with the alkyl 2,4,9-trithiaadamantane-7-carboxylate in a relative mole ratio ranging from about 1:1 to about 5:1.

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5. The method of claim 3, wherein the alkyl 2,4,9-trithiaadamantane-7-carboxylate is methyl 2,4,9-trithiaadamantane-7-carboxylate.

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- 6. The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of oxidizing 7-hydroxymethyl-2,4,9-trithiaadamantane under Swern oxidation conditions.
- 7. The method of claim 2, wherein the Ohira-Bestmann reagent is a combination of X and Y;

wherein X is $COCH_3C(N_2)P(O)(OCH_3)_2$, $COCH_3C(N_2)P(O)(OCH_2CH_3)_2$, or a combination thereof; and

wherein Y is K₂CO₃, Na₂CO₃, or a combination thereof.

- 10 8. The method of claim 2, wherein the Ohira-Bestmann reagent is reacted with 7-carbonyl-2,4,9-trithiaadamantane in a relative mole ratio ranging from about 1:1 to about 5:1.
 - 9. The method of claim 6, wherein the Swern oxidation conditions comprise a mixture selected from the group consisting of a mixture having oxalyl chloride and dimethyl sulfoxide; a mixture having trifluoroacetic anhydride and dimethylsulfoxide; a mixture having triethylamine and diisopropylamine; and combinations thereof.
 - 10. A molecular wire composition comprising a molecular wire having a trithiaadamantane surface anchor.
 - 11. A molecular wire having the formula:

$$[Z]_{\overline{n}}$$
 $[A]_{\overline{b}}$ R $[Y]_{\overline{p}}$ S

wherein A and Y are independently selected chemical functionalities;

wherein p is 0 or 1;

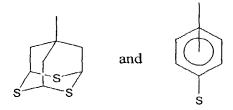
wherein b is 0 or an integer greater than or equal to 1;

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wherein R is a compound that is capable of transferring a signal; wherein Z is a surface anchor; and wherein n is 0 or an integer greater than or equal to 1.

5 12. The molecular wire of claim 11, wherein Z is selected from the group consisting of:



- 13. The molecular wire of claim 11 wherein A and Y are independently selected from the group consisting of ethynyl and carboxylate.
- 10 14. The molecular wire of claim 11, wherein the wire is selected from the group consisting of:

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$$[Z]_{n}$$
 $[A]_{b}$ $[A]_$

[III]

$$[Z]_n$$
 $[A]_b$ $[S]_n$

[V]

$$[Z]_{\overline{n}}$$
 $[A]_{\overline{b}}$ $[A]$

[VII]

[VIII]

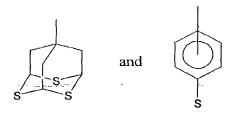
[X]

$$[Z]_n$$
 $[A]_p$ $N-N$ S S

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wherein A is a chemical functionality; wherein b is 0 or an integer greater than or equal to 1; wherein Z is a surface anchor; wherein n is 0 or an integer greater than or equal to 1; wherein M is a metallic element; and wherein X is a halogen.

- 15. The molecular wire of claim 14, wherein M is selected from the group consisting of platinum, palladium, and copper.
- 16. The molecular wire of claim 14, wherein X is selected from the group consisting of fluorine, chlorine, bromine, and iodine.
- 17. The molecular wire of claim 14, wherein Z is selected from the group consisting of:



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- 18. The molecular wire of claim 14, wherein A is ethynyl or ester.
- 19. A method for manufacturing a molecular wire comprising the step of chemically bonding, either directly or indirectly, trithiaadamantane to a compound that is capable of transferring a signal.
- 20. The method of claim 19, wherein the signal is electronic.
- 21. A molecular wire produced by the method of claim 19.

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- 22. A method for manufacturing 7-ethynyl-2,4,9-trithiaadamantane comprising the step of:
 - reducing an alkyl 2,4,9-trithiaadamantane-7-carboxylate to produce 7-hydroxymethyl-2,4,9-trithiaadamantane; and

oxidizing 7-hydroxymethyl-2,4,9-trithiaadamantane to produce 7-carbonyl-2,4,9-trithiaadamantane.

- 23. A composition comprising:
 - a molecular wire having a trithiaadamantane surface anchor, wherein the molecular wire also has an insulation coating.
- 24. The composition of claim 23, wherein the insulation coating is β -cyclodextrin.